

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2014**

The Washington County Council of Governments (COG) was called to order by Chairman James J. Eardley at 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2014, in the Commission Chambers of the Washington County Administration Building located at 197 E. Tabernacle Street, St. George, Utah.

Members Present:

James J. Eardley, Commission
Dennis Drake, Commission
Alan Gardner, Commission
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor
Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor
Lee Bracken, Enterprise Mayor
John Bramall, Hurricane Mayor
Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor
Darrin LeFevre, Toquerville Mayor
Rick Moser, Apple Valley Mayor
Tracy Matson, Rockville Mayor
Jon Pike, St. George Mayor
Philip Barlow, Hildale Mayor

Others in Attendance:

Eric Clarke, Washington County Attorney's Office
Kim Hafen, Washington County Clerk-Auditor
Bryan Thiriot, Five County AOG
Dean Cox, Washington County
Dana Meier, UDOT
Ron Whitehead, Washington County Public Works
Todd Edwards, Washington County Public Works
Peter Hansen, Washington County GIS
Curt Hutchings, Dixie MPO
Myron Lee, Dixie MPO

AGENDA

Chairman Eardley welcomed all new members to the COG and introductions were made. He announced that this is the annual COG meeting held to establish the Priority List for the current year.

Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2013

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Bramall to Approve the Minutes of October 1, 2013. Motion seconded by Mayor Hart and carried by unanimous vote.

Review of Corridor Preservation Funds/Financials

Chairman Eardley emphasized that, with the passage of HB11 last year, counties were able to change the distribution of the Corridor Preservation Fund and that the COG changed its distribution as follows: 60% corridor preservation, 20% grants for property needed for road construction projects, and 20% loans for property needed for road construction projects (revolving fund). The fund now generates approximately one hundred and two thousand dollars (\$102,000) per month. The Washington County Clerk-Auditor's Office distributed copies of the most recent Corridor Preservation Funds which shows that the balance as of 2/18/14 is \$3,858,520.54. Subtracting the \$1.8 million for the St. George City Bluff Street project, the available balance is now \$2,058,520.54.

Consideration of New Requests to be Added; Update/Approve the 2014 Priority List

There two (2) new projects requested to be added to the 2014 Priority List are Merrill Road from 240 West to Washington Fields Road and the Apple Valley Gateway Project along SR-59. Chairman Eardley reiterated that the Project List is not prioritized but rather listed alphabetically, and it is up to the COG to determine which project(s) will receive priority. Myron Lee added that if a willing seller of a corridor is found, it will be the COG's job to facilitate the usage of appropriate funds for the purchase of that corridor.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Rosenberg to Approve the 2014 Priority List with Two (2) New Projects: Merrill Road from 240 West to Washington Fields Road, and the Apple Valley Gateway Project Along SR-59. Motion seconded by Mayor Pike and carried by unanimous vote.

Other Business

Deputy County Attorney Eric Clarke asked to review the process and procedures of the COG for the benefit of the new members.

- The COG is funded with a dedicated tax to purchase travel corridors;
- Last year, the COG decided to change its policy to the 60/20/20 split because of concerns over funds being dedicated to short-term projects;
- Require applications at least two (2) weeks prior to COG meetings;
- Division of Funds, as follows:

- Divide funds to ensure that some money is reserved for long-term corridor acquisition;
- Otherwise, funds may be used for land acquisition costs of more immediate road construction projects:
 - There is a 60/40 split, with the 40% being split evenly between grants and loans
- Funds may be used countywide.

Public Works Director Ron Whitehead offered to assist any of the new Mayors in the event they have any questions about the COG or its procedures.

Next Meeting

Meetings of the COG are scheduled on an as-needed basis.

Chairman Eardley adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

CHRISTINE S. HALL
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

JAMES J. EARDLEY
CHAIRMAN